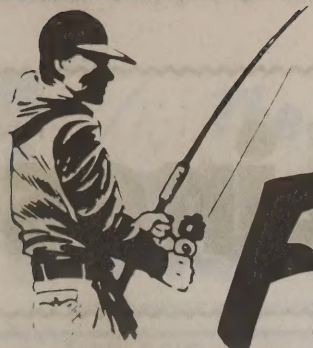
20¢



The Long Island FISHERMAN

OCTOBER 18TH, 1973, ISSUE NO. 40

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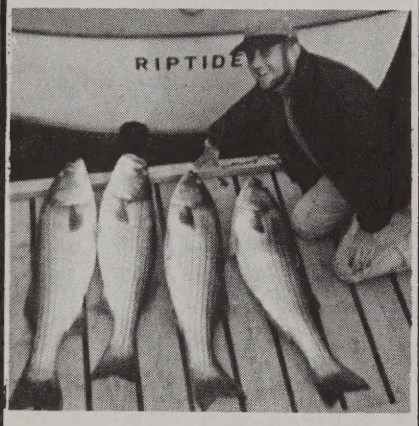
FOR STRIPED BASS AND BLUEFISH



#550 HAMMERED SPOON
James Howell, trolling a 550 with pork rind on wire line in the tidal rips off Martha's Vineyard, Mass., caught these 28 to 33 lb. Striped Bass. In two months 24 Stripers of over 30 lbs. were taken by Mr. Howell on the 550, most in murky water or under overcast skies.— Great too,for:

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A MESSAGE FROM SENATOR ABE RIBICOFF

Recently I sat with fishermen from Connecticut and New York who expressed concern over the decline of striped bass recorded landing.

Based on fishery statistics of the U.S. Departments of Interior and Commerce, there has been a 48 percent decline in the commerce landings of striped bass over the past five years. This is the most serious decline that has ever been recorded.

In response to these fishermen's concern over spawned and nursery grounds which supply a major portion of the striped bass for Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey, I sent the following letter to Dr. Dixie Lee Ray of the Atomic Energy Commission. I have also inserted the letter in the Congressional Record.

(The following has been taken from the Congressional Register, Vol. 119 No. 128, September 6, 1973.)

SENATE PRESERVATION OF THE STRIPED BASS
HON. ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF
Of Connecticut
In the Senate of the United States
Wednesday, September 12, 1973

MR. RIBICOFF. Mr. President, for years sportsmen from Connecticut and throughout the entire Northeast have enjoyed fishing for striped bass in Long Island Sound. Now there is a serious possibility that New York's Consolidated Edison Storm King powerplant on the Hudson River may destroy the Sound's striped bass.

Many of the striped bass are hatched in the Hudson River. Fishermen fear that the Storm King plant, which will take in 9 million gallons of Hudson River water a minute will also suck in and destroy the bulk of the river's striped bass eggs, larvae, and new born fish.

Because it is such a complex problem, I have asked the Atomic Energy Commission to have its Oak Ridge National Laboratory, which has a model of the site in question, to thoroughly review the issues involved.

I ask unanimous consent that my letter of September 10, 1973, to Dr. Dixie Lee Ray, the chairman of the AEC, be printed in the Extensions of Remarks.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the Record as follows:

Dr. Dixie Lee Ray,
Chairman,
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Ray: I am writing to request the assistance of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in getting answers to questions that a number of Connecticut striped bass fishermen have asked me about.

The questions concern the Storm King pumped storage hydroelectric power plant that Consolidated Edison proposed to construct on the Hudson River at Cornwall, New York. Many of the striped bass that are hatched in the Hudson spend their adult lives in Long Island Sound where they provide outstanding and valuable sports fishing for Connecticut anglers. The fishermen fear that the Storm King plant, which will take in nine million gallons of Hudson River water a minute, will also suck in and destroy vast numbers of eggs, larvae and young striped bass and thus cause the fishing in Long Island Sound to decline drastically.

The Storm King plant, which has been licensed by the Federal Power Commission has been the subject of litigation for nearly ten years. Still, the effect of the plant on the fishes of the Hudson, particularly striped bass, remains in dispute. Consolidated Edison maintains that a study shows the Storm King plant would remove only an insignificant three per cent of the yearly striped bass hatch. In rebuttal, fishermen state this claim is based on incorrect mathematics because the equation used in the study to predict mortalities did not include the tides in the Hudson. The fishermen also stated that density-induced currents were not treated fully in the study.

The fishermen's assertions would appear to have some substance, inasmuch as W. Mason Lawrence of the

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 8 NO. 40 OCTOBER 18, 1973

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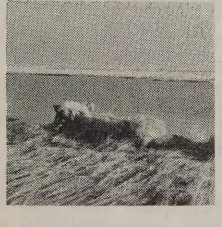
NEWS REPORTS BY:

Dick Alley, Art Frey, Stu Miller, Scott Simons, Pete Barrett, Mike Zarrella



ABOUT THE COVER: A well-grassed duckboat—a must for successful gunning in most areas on the Island. The L.I. duck season this year is Nov. 19 thru Jan. 2. See the article "Long Island's Duck Shooting" on page 12.

PUBLISHER: Rich Reina

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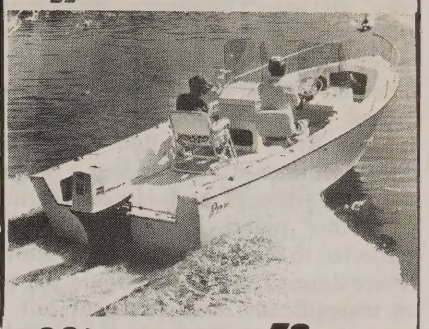
pro-line



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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has admitted by letter, that "the river was treated as if it flowed in one direction only" and thus "tidal recycling of eggs and larvae past the intake was not included in the calculations of the potential effect of the plant." Concerned fishermen point out that the Hudson River reverses flow with each tide, four times in a day and, as a result, striped bass eggs and larvae floating past the plant intake would be subjected to removal not once but ten to twelve times. The kill then would not be an insignificant three per cent but a most significant 35 per cent, possibly more, depending upon the volume of freshwater entering the Hudson during spring spawning.

Because of these different opinions, I wish to submit the question of just what effect the Storm King plant would have on striped bass to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The aquatic biology section, led by Dr. Charles Coutant in the Environmental Sciences Division, enjoys the finest reputation and the laboratory has, most importantly, a biological model of the Hudson used in the Indian Point Number Two operating license hearing recently concluded by the Atomic Energy Commission.

Specially, I pose the following questions to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory:

1. What percentage of the striped bass hatch in the Hudson will be removed or destroyed by operation of the Storm King plant?

2. Is the percentage significant or insignificant?

3. What effect will this removal or destruction have on striped bass fishing in Long Island Sound?

4. In the event operation of the Storm King plant would have a significant impact, can hatcheries be used to sustain striped bass fishing in Long Island Sound?

Best wishes,
Sincerely,

Abe Ribicoff

POLLUTION NOTES:

Studies show that motorists drop more than 16,000 pieces of litter PER MILE each year on the Nation's highways.

News Releases

STUDY OF IRON SHOT

With the waterfowl season opening October 1 statewide, except for Lake Champlain and Long Island, the Department of Environmental Conservation is launching an experimental program to gain experience with iron shot. Waterfowlers hunting at five wildlife management areas operated by the Department will be offered fifteen free rounds of iron shot to try. Their only obligation is to complete a short form indicating number of shots, birds downed and recovered.

This information is sought to gather data on the effectiveness of nontoxic steel shot, commonly termed iron shot, compared with traditional lead shot. Next season, according to the Department of the Interior, all waterfowl hunters in the Atlantic Flyway — which includes all of New York State — will be required to use only iron shot. By the following year, in the 1975-76 season, lead shot will be banned for waterfowl throughout the country.

The problem with lead shot, when it falls in water, is that it remains on the bottom. Puddle ducks, or those that feed by "tipping," ingest this spent lead shot while feeding on vegetable matter. It poisons them and many thousands die every year, a total waste.

Nontoxic steel shot solves that problem but, being lighter than lead, will require a little learning and discipline on the part of hunters to take only shots within its effective range. That is part of the Department's experimental program this season. Some 25,000 rounds of 12 gauge shells, loaded with number 4 nontoxic steel shot, will be available at five wildlife management areas operated on a controlled access basis. These are Tonawanda, Oak Orchard, Howland Island, Perch River and Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Areas.

In addition to the 15 free rounds available to cooperating hunters, they may buy additional iron shot ammunition at the wholesale cost to the Department, $4.20 per box.

According to Herb Doig, Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, the shift to iron shot will be good for waterfowl and, consequently, for waterfowl hunters. "Waterfowl are an important wildlife asset. Many species are threatened by loss of breeding habitat despite the donations of billions of dollars by sportsmen to provide this habitat. It is good sense, therefore, to be as prudent in managing waterfowl as we can.

"Lead shot produces needless waste, so it is time to get rid of it. This is especially important now that there is an adequate substitute in nontoxic steel shot. However, iron shot is not an exact imitation of lead shot, so hunters are going to be particularly careful to take only shots that are clearly within effective range to avoid crippling losses. This is not an unreasonable burden, however, for every conscientious hunter wants to be certain that he takes only those shots that can reasonably be expected to bag his game. 'Sky-busting' is poor sportsmanship," he concluded. For futher information, call: Arthur Woldt (518) 457-5400.

HOW TO CARE FOR GAME

Many hunters never really get to appreciate the optimum flavor of wild game. Yet the reason is simple. They never take the time to preserve this optimum flavor at the time of the kill.

Here are the ways:

RABBITS: Carry a sharp knife and eviscerate the rabbit while blood is warm and will drain more easily. Stuff the cavity with green grass to keep it ventilated and allow more rapid cooling out.

QUAIL: It's pretty hard to louse up the sweet, succulent flavor of Mister Bob but a "gut shot" bird can't be expected to taste as good as a head-shot bird. Keep quail cool and immediately field dress any badly shot birds, washing in water when possible.

DOVES: If you enjoy this dark-meat delicacy, try this on your next hunt. Keep a camouflaged ice chest nearby. When shooting slows remove the breasts of downed birds and place them in a plastic bag flat against the ice.

And if you freeze game, do so in water, preferably in a commercial freezer where it can be "fast frozen" to preserve natural flavor. Game frozen this way is tasty up to three years.

(Courtesy "Daisy" Air Rifles, Rogers, Ark.)

HUNTERS SAFETY COURSE

Schultz Sporting Goods of Freeport will run a Hunter's Safety course on Saturday, October 20, from 8 AM to 12 noon. Certificates will be issued upon completion of the course. Call Schultz Sporting Goods for reservations.

HEMPSTEAD TOWN OFFERS HUNTER SAFETY COURSE

The Hempstead Town Parks and Recreation Department is offering a series of Hunter Safety Courses at the Hempstead Town Hall Pavillion, Presiding Supervisor Francis T. Purcell announced today.

Prospective applicants may take the session slated for October 18 and 19 (Thursday and Friday). The session meets at 8:00 p.m. at the pavillion.

The classes will be taught by a hunter safety instructor from the town's law enforcement division of the Conservation Waterways Department. Successful completion of the course will qualify the hunter for a state hunting license.

State law permits youngsters 14 and 15 to apply for a small game hunting license, while hunters 16 and over are eligible for big game licenses. The course will stress proper handling of rifles and hand guns and education in the state's hunting laws.

Town Hall Pavillion is located at Town Hall Plaza, Main Street, Hempstead. Consult Hempstead Town's fall Parks and Recreation brochure for further information.

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES AVAILABLE AT SPORTS SHOW

In addition to fish and wildlife displays and exhibits on taxidermy and dog training, visitors to the annual Sports Show being held at Rooselvelt Raceway on Veteran weekend will be able to purchase New York State Hunting and Fishing Licenses according to Hempstead Town Clerk Nathan L.H. Bennett.

"Many of Long Island's sportsmen cannot always come to Town Hall to purchase their hunting of fishing licenses," stated Bennett, "We decided that this would be an excellent opportunity to bring our services closer to the people by participating in the sports show."

The Hunting and Fishing Show is being sponsored by the Nassau County Fish and Game Association and will be held at Roosevelt Raceway on October 20, 21 and 22 from 12 noon to 9:00 p.m. Admission is $2.00 for adults and $1.00 for children.

A special booth operated by the Hempstead Town Clerk's Office will be open during the three-day event and licenses will be available.

Small game, big game and fishing licenses can be obtained for $4.25 each and a combination hunting and fishing license can be purchased for $7.75.

CROW HUNTING SEASON

Crow season is open in New York State.

The 1973-74 season runs from October 1 through December 10 and from February 1 through March 25, 1974, with no bag limit. This season conforms with the 124-day season limit permitted under Federal regulations.

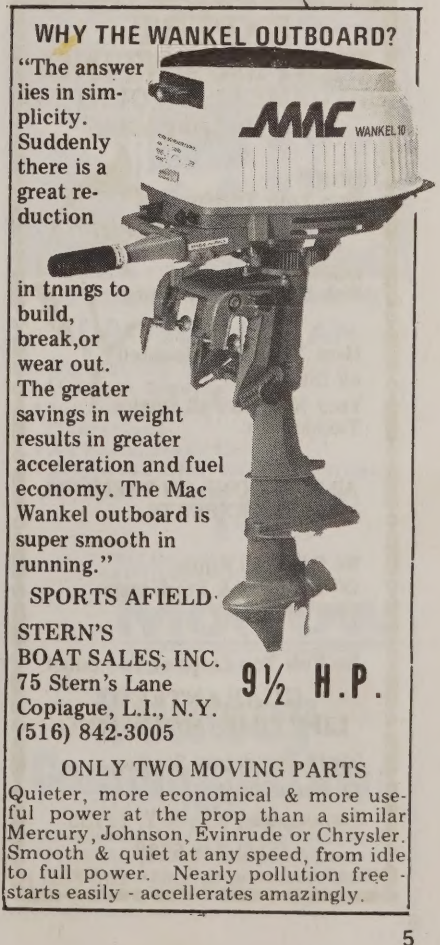
This is the first announcement of the season in New York State. The Hunting-Trapping-fishing Guide for 1973-74 was already in distribution by the time season dates were established.

The fall season next year is expected to begin in mid-August and run through mid-November. The spring season will probably remain similar, possibly beginning somewhat later and ending earlier due to the longer fall season. Late spring and summer months, while young are being reared, will be closed to crow hunting.

Until very recently, crows were completely unprotected and so could be taken at any time. They have now been included in the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act signed in March 1972 by the United States and Mexico. This convention provided further protection for thirty two families of birds, including the family Corvidae which includes crows. This is the same Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, under which regulations are established on waterfowl moving among Canada, the United States and Mexico.

The new Federal migratory bird rules adopted July 9,1973 permit crows to be taken by sport hunting during a season not to exceed 124 days per year in all states except Alaska and Hawaii. The states may regulate hunting methods, bag and possession limits as well as dates and duration of the season and other appropriate restrictions. But, under Federal regulation, crows may not be hunted from aircraft not during the peak nesting season. They may only be taken by firearms, archery of falconry under appropriate state license.

Nuisance crows may be taken at any time without Federal permit when found committing or about to commit depredations upon ornamental or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock or wildlife or when concentrated in such numbers or manner as to constitute a health hazard or other nuisance.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CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

FAMILY FALL FISHING CONTEST RESULTS

Good weather and an abundance of fish combined to make the Montauk Marine Basin's Family Fall Fishing Contest a resounding success. Seventy-one competing boats took more than 2,000 bluefish Saturday and Sunday in the first annual contest. Fortunately, enough stripers managed to beat the blues to the offerings to keep the contest lively and provide winners for each division.

The overall contest winner was Judd York of the Atlantic Beach Rod & Gun Club, who topped the Men's Bass Division with a 29¾ lb. Striped Bass. Coincidentally, Barbara Panza of Long Beach fished with Judd on his boat the "Compass Rose Jr.", and took the Women's Bass Division with a 22 lb. 14 oz. fish. Both fish were trolled. Tom Hartley of North Massapequa took a 16½ pound bass that was good enough to head the Junior Striper Division for boys.

In the Men's Bluefish Division there was a tie for first place. Jim Humphrey and Richard Palumbo, both of Connecticut, each took bluefish of 15¼ pounds. The Women's Bluefish Division was taken by Linda Lutz of Hunter, N.Y., with a 15-lb. slammer. The Junior Division Bluefish winners were George Bernardo of Milford, Conn., with a 14-pounder to take the boys, and Liz Butmankiewitz of Middle Island topped the ladies with a 13 lb. 3 oz. blue.

TURKEY SHOOT

The Long Island Sportsman Rod & Gun Club is having a Turkey Shoot on Sunday, October 21,1973, on Rocky Point — Middle Island Road, one mile north of Jericho Turnpike at Middle Island N. Y. There will be Trap-Skeet-Lucky • 410-Pellet Rifle Shoots and Archery.

Refreshments will be served — for further information call: Tom Mortati (516) 744-9595.

JONES BEACH* CAPTREE AND ROBERT MOSES STATE PARK FISHING CONTEST SEPTEMBER CONTEST WINNERS

From the Surf

1. Charles Doudera, Elmont New York; Striped Bass, 42 lbs. 5 oz.; Cedar Beach.
2. Patrick Costello, Medford, N.Y.; Striped Bass, 38 lbs. 14 oz.; Cedar Beach.
3. Joseph Augenblick, Manhattan, NY: Striped Bass, 37 lbs. 14 oz.; Gilgo.

FROM THE PIER & bank

1. Al Bentsen, Freeport NY; Bluefish, 17 lbs. 3 oz.; Jones Beach Bank.
2. Frank Tiss, So. Hempstead, N.Y.; Striped Bass, 41 lbs. 6 oz.; Jones Beach Bank.
3. James Sheridan, Hauppauge, N.Y.; Bluefish, 13 lbs.; Oak Beach Bank.

FROM THE BOAT

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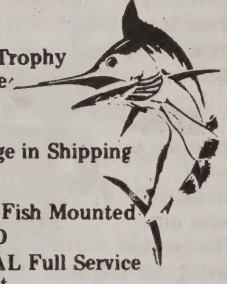

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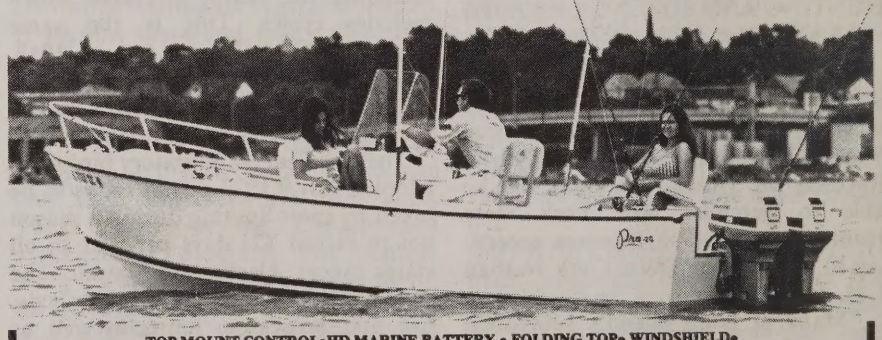

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2. James Lingel, Elnora, N.Y.; Bluefish, 15 lbs. 6 oz.; Capt. A. Peters.
3. Joseph Caltabiano, Elmhurst, N.Y.; Bluefish, 15 lbs.; Capt. A. Huber.

SCHAEFER FISHING CONTEST TOP TEN CLUBS AS OF 8-15-73

1. MARTHA'S VINEYARD FISHING CLUB, MASS., 5,580; 2. ASBURY PARK FISHING CLUB, N.J., 4,624; 3. NARRAGANSETT PIER SPORTFISHING, R.I., 4,359; 4. HARTFORD SURF FISHING CLUB, CONN., 4,125; 5. WOONSOCKET STRIPER CLUB, R.I., 3,965; 6. SPORTSMEN UNLIMITED, MASS., 3,679; NEWPORT COUNTY S.W. FISHING CLUB, R.I., 3,643; 8. PINE ISLAND FISHING ASSOC., CONN., 3,412; 9. MASS. STRIPED BASS ASSOC., MASS., 3,062; 10. CAPE ANN STRIPER CLUB, MASS., 2,854.

RESULTS OF THE 9TH NATIONAL SURF CASTING CHAMPIONSHIP

COMBINED DISTANCE EVENTS

Unrestricted Events
Harry Bonner
Huntington Sta., N.Y. 3,376 FT

Level Line Events
Alfred Matthews
Brooklyn, N.Y. ***2,856 FT

All Distance Events
Harry Bonner 5,977 FT

EVENT SCORES

2 Oz Unrestricted	AVE	LONG CAST
1. H. Bonner	636' 2"***	652' 7"***
2. A. Matthews	621' 6"	644'3"
3. D. Webber	174' 8"	524' 3"
4 Oz. Unrestricted		
1. R. Webber	562'	602' 1"
2. H. Bonner	489' 3"	545'
3. R. Ostrom	458' 3"	468'
2 Oz. Level Line		
1. A. Matthews	470' 3"	479' 11***
2. R. Kruse	448' 7"	470'
3. H. Bonner	436'	441'
4 Oz. Level Line		
1. A. Matthews	481' 7"	485'5"
2. R. Ostrom	441' 7"	446'
3. R. Webber	435' 7"	449'

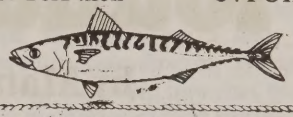
***NEW NATIONAL RECORDS

COMBINED ACCURACY EVENTS CHAMPION

Richard Webber 123 POINTS

2 OZ ACCURACY FIXED SPOOL
1. Dick McDermed 70 POINTS
2. Harold Babcock 70 POINTS
3. Richard Webber 55 POINTS

4 OZ ACCURACY REVOLVING SPOOL
1. Richard Webber 68 POINTS
2. Art Hansen 54 POINTS
3. Walter Terzaken 54 POINTS



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How To Fillet A Flounder

by Matt Ahern

Many years ago I watched with awe as an old, grizzled Canarsie fisherman speedily turned a bushel of flounders into the most delicious looking filets I had ever seen. The deftness and skill with which this knife-flashing old timer went through fish after fish was truly amazing. As I watched, spellbound, the thought occured to me: why couldn't I do that? It certainly seemed easy enough. Right then I was determined to filet the next batch of flounders to come my way.

And I did.

While my first attempt with a dozen or so flounders probably took as much time to filet as did the old timer's complete bushel, I did succeed in turning out a full platter of boneless and skinless filets of which I was most proud.

I discovered two things when I had completed my first attempt. One was the art of turning out choice flounder filets was not difficult, the other being I was a long way from the wizardry of the old timer and his bushel of flounders. However, with experience, improvement came rapidly, as will yours if you follow the simple directions given below.

To make the job easier, there are three things you will need: a good fileting knife, a sharpening stone, and a suitable cutting board. You should use a knife made expressly for the job, and — keep it sharp! This is the secret for doing a good fileting job. Do not waste time and effort by using the wrong type knife. A good filet knife is thin and flexible, enabling it to follow the contour of the fish with ease. Remember, too, to use that knife just for fileting. If you wish to clean and behead other fish from time to time, use a different knife. The edge of a good filet knife will easily become ruined if it is mistreated.

The cutting board should be at least fourteen inches long, eight inches wide, and two inches thick. This thickness is necessary, because your knife hand must be free to move without coming into contact with the table. This is why newspaper will not do. While a small stack of newspaper may seem suitable in place of a cutting board, it really isn't; it will soon become soggy and develop the annoying habit of sticking to the fish. Notice the cutting board in photos. It is the same as the already given dimensions.

A few more important tips are in order here:

Always filet fish as soon as possible, and wash to remove as much slime and dirt as you can; dirt or sand will soon dull the keen knife edge. Cold fish are much easier to filet, so refrigerate a few hours if at all possible. The knife is then less apt to tear flesh should a bone be struck. Another very important thing is this: unless you wish to keep the skin on, don't scale any fish you intend to filet. The scales act as a barrier, preventing the knife from cutting through the skin.

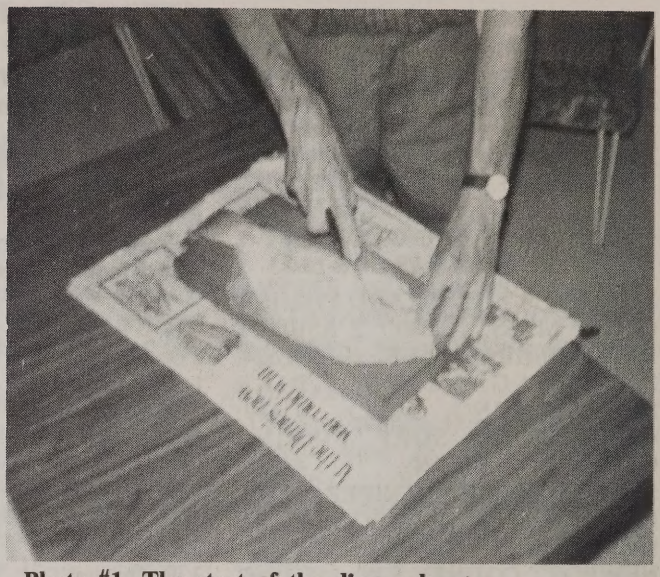


Photo #1. The start of the diagonal cut.

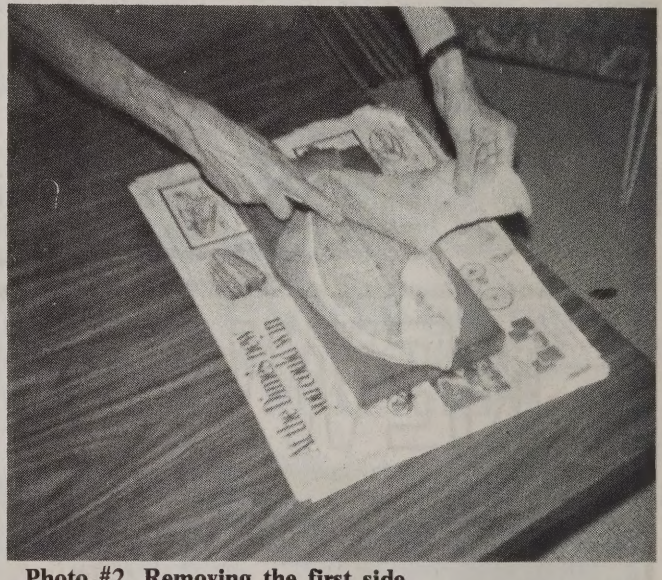


Photo #2. Removing the first side.

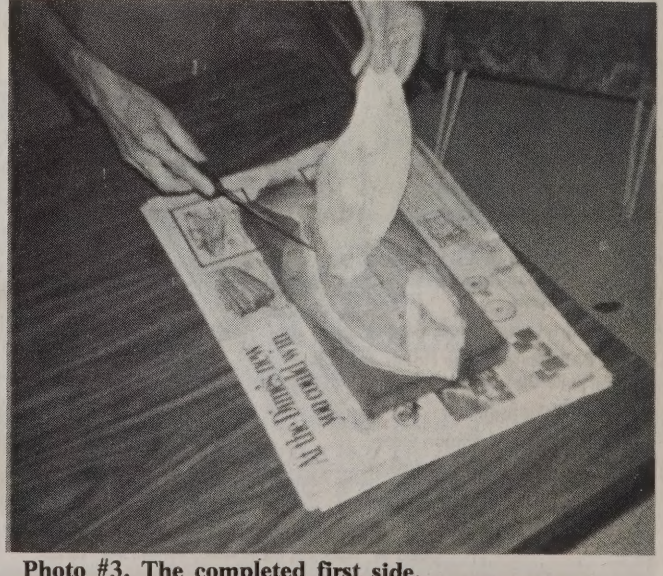


Photo #3. The completed first side.

Remember, too, to keep fingers clear of the knife. Slips can and do happen.

Now let's filet.

With the flounder on the board as in photo one, make a diagonal cut to, but not into, the bone. Run the knife past the abdominal cavity, skirting the gut. Do not exert too much pressure and sever the backbone. Should you do so, it will be difficult to work the opposite side. Next, make a cut the length of the fish to the tail as shown in photo two. (This cut has already been completed in the photo.) Begin slicing from the skeleton where the two cuts join at the shoulder; cutting carefully to the tail with sure, deft strokes. As you grasp the loosened filet with your free hand, let the knife "feel" its way along the bones. Photo two shows this. Now hold the knife at a 45° angle and slide it over the backbone, again slicing toward the tail until the filet is removed in one piece. You now have your first boneless filet as shown in photo three.

Photo four shows the completed top side with the filet removed. To accomplish this, place head of fish toward you and make the shoulder and abdomen cuts as before. Then slice across tail and work toward the head, peeling back the filet as you go. Work the knife completely to the other side and cut off. Your two filets are now ready for skinning.

Photos five and six show the actual skinning, which is a very simple procedure. Wet your knife, place the filet on the board, tail-end nearest you, and carefully make a cut down to, but not into, the skin. Make this cut about a half inch from the end, and by holding the knife at an angle, grasp the skin and pull against knife with short, sideway motions. The knife will peel off the skin, separting the two pieces as if by magic. You now have two choice filets as shown in photo seven.

This is all there is to fileting a flounder.

You should work slowly and carefully until you get the "feel" of the operation. In a very short time you will have filet after filet of just about the most delicious seafood known. Fortunately for the fisherman, flounders are a lean fish, which means they will keep well in your freezer. When the winter winds blow, it is nice to be able to dip into that freezer and bring forth not only happy memories of past fishing, but also the knowledge that those delicious tasting filets got that way because of your skill with a filet knife...perhaps with skill enough to eventually put you in the same class as the old Canarsie fisherman and his bushel of flounders.

Photo #4. Finishing off the last slice.

Photo #6. The completion.

Photo #5. Beginning the skinning.

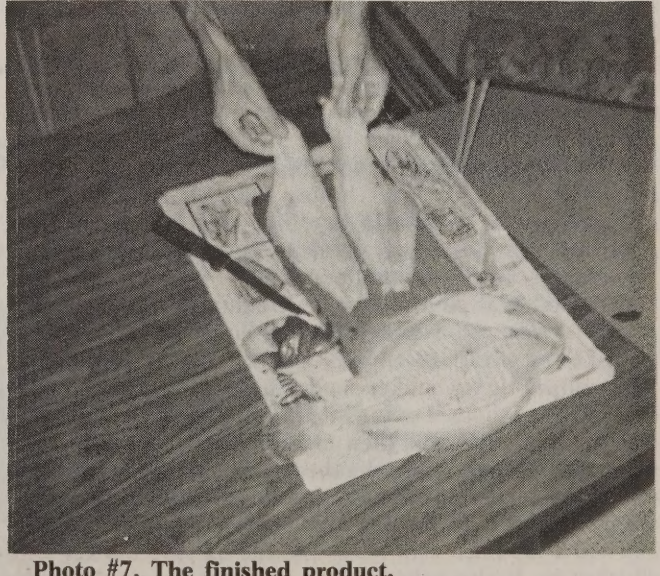


Photo #7. The finished product.

Autumn's Mixed Bag

by Don Millus

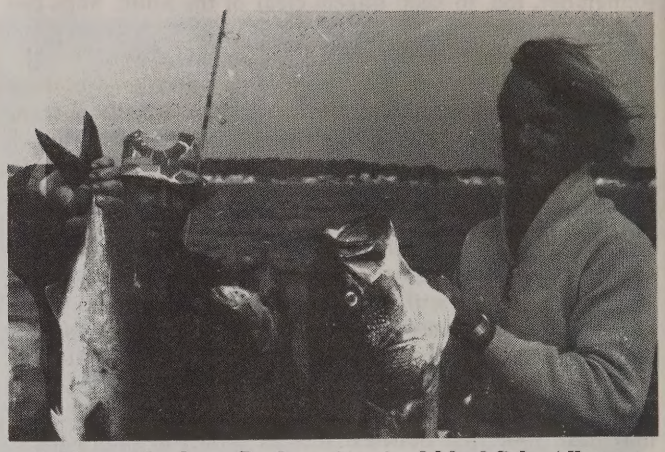
We later learned that the first striper weighed forty pounds, but this one was running further and pulling harder. Even in the dark of the harbor, its occasional thrashing on the surface was visible, thanks to the floodlights for the hundreds of boats tied up along the docks. One more surge, the fish got around the mooring line of a big sailing yacht, and the line went limp at the end of Jeff Smith's rod. He didn't complain too hard since he had landed the forty pounder already, and by the end of the day he'd have taken a bluefish and a mess of blacks to go with the striped bass. It was just a typical day of the mixed bag of fishing that autumn provides in Connecticut. Any day from now through November could provide this kind of variety...and more.

It all started out as one of those days you just luck into. Two days before we had concentrated on bluefishing in a friendly little contest with a group of local lady anglers who had been out to show us up. Despite the foul weather we had doubled their catch, but four blues to two isn't worth bragging about. Besides, we really wanted to hang into some of the big stripers that were coming into Milford Harbor at night to chase some of the bunker left by the commercial fishermen, who had already cleaned out most of the Sound in July and early August.

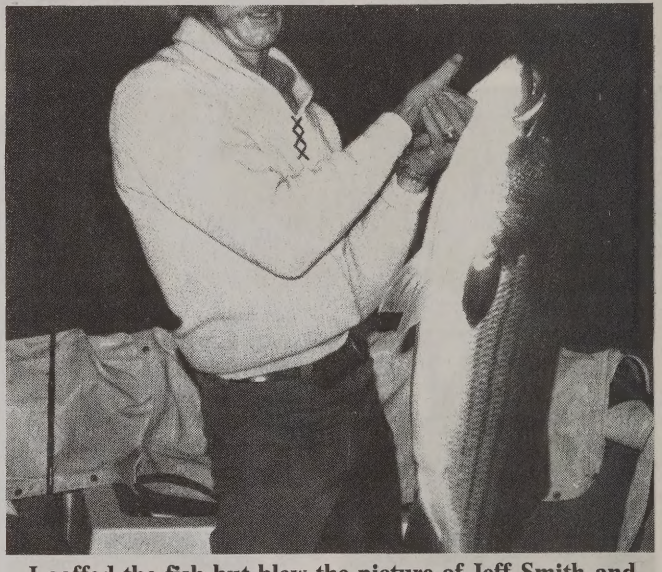
Jeff had cooked up his special crab-meat-over lasagna the night before, and when I arrived at Vinnie Ciulla's at three in the morning it was still warm enough for a great breakfast. After a quick cup of coffee we headed out into the pre-dawn dark. It was warm, the stars were out in force, and hardly a whisper of wind was stirring; just the weather we could have used for out bait fishing versus trolling contest of a few days past. In a half hour we had the boat launched at the Milford ramp, and this time everything was working perfectly; we had even remembered to bring the cutting board for the menhaden and green crabs. After sunrise we would be going for blacks.

Halfway out the harbor we cut the motor and drifted. A half-dozen white swans swam slowly alongside the boat, but their eerie appearance did not attract our notice as much as did the occasional splashes in the main channel. The bunker were in and an occasional splash-whack-splash told us that something else was there chasing them. It's hard to keep one's pulse rate down at a time like that, but we had not taken any fish in the forty or fifty pound class this year and thought this might be the morning.

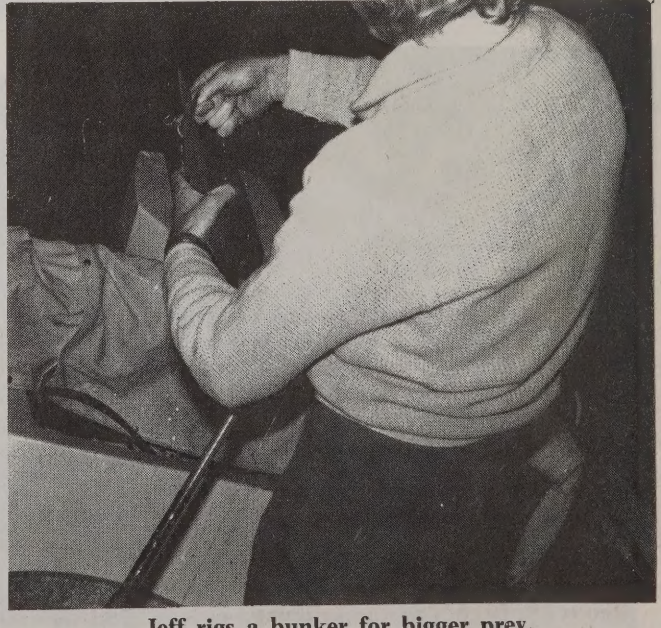
Our nine foot spinning rods were equipped with seventeen pound test line, big clip-swivels, and large treble hooks with an ounce or so of lead on their shanks. This is pretty much the standard rig for bunker-snagging over here and along the Rhode Island shore. Casting into the bunker, we let the hooks sink for a few seconds, then brought them back with long, sweeping retrieves. Almost immediately, two of the rods bent over as we connected with bunker. Since the fish are usually snagged in the back, it takes a bit of cranking to get them in. We had a tub filled with water and the still-live bunker were chucked in. It also helps to have an extra large pail for the



A blue and a bass flank a nice-sized blackfish. All went for fresh bait on an early fall morning.



I gaffed the fish but blew the picture of Jeff Smith and his freshly-caught bass, which fell to a tail-hooked bunker.



Jeff rigs a bunker for bigger prey.

ones that are bleeding a lot and would foul up the water for the other fish that are still alive. Of course, the ideal thing is to net the fish and keep an aerator going on a barrel or tub to keep the fish alive, but a net right here probably would have spooked the bass; we made do with the snaggers.

With a dozen fish in the tub, Jeff took a conventional boat outfit and hooked up one of the bunkers. He had two treble hooks tied about five inches apart on a length of sixty pound test monofilament and, with one hook in the bunker's mouth and the other in its tail, the bass would get it at either end. It took only a short flip to put the bait into range of the feeding stripers. What current there was moved toward the mouth of the harbor.

I decided to fish my bunker with only one treble, and I put that through the nose of one of the livelier customers we had snagged. Meanwhile, Vinnie was snagging bunker and letting them swim for a while before bringing them back into the boat: occasionally this tactic will get both a bunker and a bass on one cast.

Just then Jeff's line started moving up the harbor. He raised his rod tip, put the reel in gear, and lowered the tip until the line came taut. As he moved the boat rod back over his shoulder a bass broke water twenty feet away. The striper had grabbed the treble-hooked bunker, and we were into our first fish of the day.

Vinnie started the motor, and what looked at first like a ten pound fish headed for the moored sailboats. Just about the time we expected the line to snag, the fish changed its mind and headed back across the channel. I kept telling Jeff to tighten his drag to hold the fish, but he gritted his teeth and said that it was tight. The fish moved past the boat and his weight trebled in my estimation. On the next pass I sunk the gaff as Vinnie maneuvered the boat away from Milford's yachting fleet. The bass lay in the bottom of the boat, still full of life. One of the trebles was in its stomach, the other in its jaw. I added another six pounds to its weight. I was still four pounds short.

Jeff's tail-hooked bunker got two more hits plus the lost fish. His theory is that a bunker hooked in the nose swims like an ordinary bunker and doesn't offer a special "target of opportunity" for the bass. A live bunker swimming freely by itself would stand out, but in a school of bunker the erratic movement of a tail-hooked fish is just the ticket. His theory seemed to work, too.

The action died as the sky lightened, and we headed for Charles Island for one more shot at the bass. This time we anchored the boat and added wire leaders to the trebles—in case a big blue grabbed the bunker. Vinnie selected a bunker that easily went a pound and a quarter. "Big bait, big fish," or so he hoped. Needless to say, a seven pound blue ruined his last live striper bait. We gaffed the fish and upped the anchor. The tide was moving in and it was time to go after the blacks.

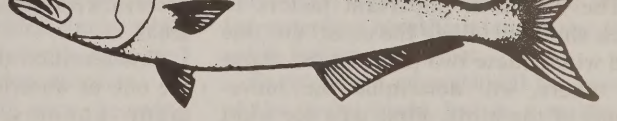
We anchored off Point Beach within a few hundred yards off shore. Vinnie had the boat tied so that the wind held us perpendicularly to the current. While he and Jeff cut crabs for the blacks I cut slices of bunker and cast them out in front of the boat, allowing them to drift free. I set the drag of my big spinning reel very light and propped the rod out of the way.

We were soon into the blacks and despite the wind that had sprung up and played hob with the mooring, had five fish up to four pounds in the pail before the first blue hit. I grabbed my spinning outfit, tightened the drag, and leaned back to a pleasant tug of war. The blue scored some points but finally fell to Jeff's gaff. Since I had gotten his bass on the first shot, I had some comments on the fact that it took him three swipes to nail this blue. Of course, his reply was that it was all in handling the rod.

The only thing lacking from our preparations was a few boxes of worms. With blues, blackfish, and bass in the tub, only some flatfish would be needed to complete the fall picture. Vinnie had taken a dozen better than a pound the previous Sunday, confirming my hopes that the clean-up of the Sound is being felt in the size of this year's flounders.

Despite the absence of flounder, we had to head back so that Vinnie could take over the tackle shop from his wife. He knew that his hopes for getting out on other fall mornings depended on his getting back on time to keep his promises to Barbara. And the bass, blues, blackfish, and flounder would be here, we hoped, until Thanksgiving.

The mixed bag that Long Island Sound provides for fall fishermen would still be open for business.



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Long Island's Duck Shooting

by Bill Bornsheur

Once again beautiful summer is gone, fall is upon us and winter lurks not far behind. One cycle is completed and another begins. In millions of waterfowl, Nature's alarm clock has already gone off, triggering the migration instinct, and the birds are making their long flight from the north country.

The Atlantic Flyway (one of four major U.S. flyways) is the route for a tremendous amount of birds; a large portion of these southbound waterfowl will stop over in the bays and tidal marshes of Long Island. Some will stay through the long winter, but most will continue their flight.

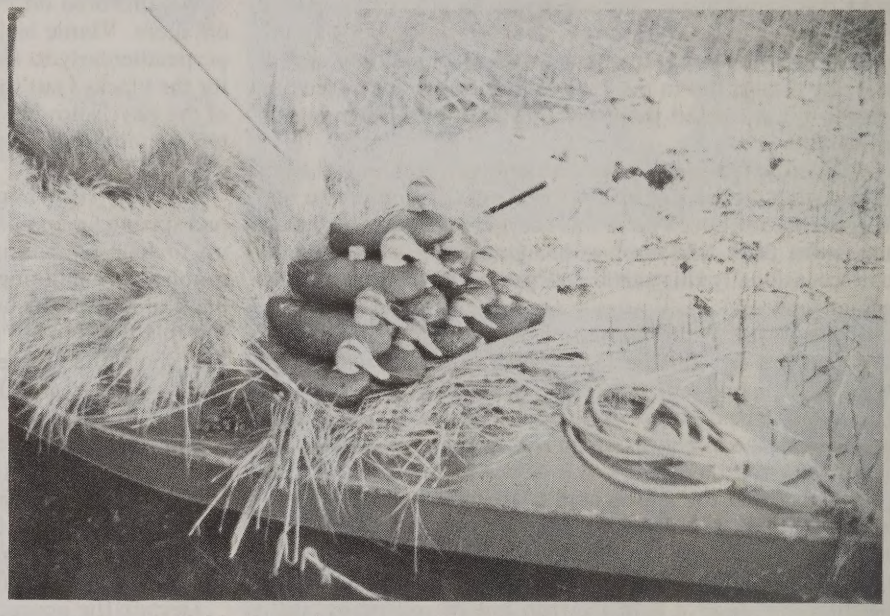
Long Island does have good duck shooting but it is not an easy sport. The hunters who work at it, and learn how and why the birds move, usually do best. You can't just go out to some island, set out the decoys, and expect to get good shooting.

In order to find good hunting spots you must first locate where the ducks and geese feed. This means spending time in the marsh, observing the flight patterns and watching the birds landing and taking off from feeding areas. Pre-season scouting—using a good pair of binoculars— is one of the best ways to do this.

The two most important factors in duck shooting (along the coast) are tide and wind; these two parameters, above all others, will determine the movements of the birds. First let's see what effect the tide has on waterfowl.

Geese and puddle ducks (blacks, mallards, pintails, teals, etc.) tip up and down to reach their food on the bottom. These birds need shallow water to feed and, therefore, normally fly to their feeding areas on the ebb tide. Flood tide makes it difficult to obtain food so the birds fly back to the safety of the fresh water ponds or just paddle around relaxing.

Wind, with its chill factor, makes a hunter shiver unless he has dressed for it, but the cold winds make the ducks newvous and uncomfortable: a good strong wind usually means the ducks are going to fly. Bluebird (calm) days are poor for shooting and the hunter will most likely get shots at dawn, with only occasional strays to be had during the day.



Oversized black duck decoys will attract many species of ducks.

Along the south shore of Long Island lie numerous lakes and ponds. These calm waters provide a safe resting place for waterfowl during the day, but the birds resting here frequently fly out to the salt marshes to get food and gravel, which helps them digest their food. Geese are particularly regular in flying to their favorite sandbars, and the observant hunter can easily locate these areas.

One question that always pops up is the one of waterfowl identification. To many gunners, both novice and experienced, quick identification of the various species is extremely difficult and the birds won't make it easy as they are usually flying fast. Plumage and color are ways of identifying different birds but flight patterns and wingbeats are more reliable. Ducks like broadbills have rapid wingbeats, while the wingbeats of mallards and blacks appear slower. Small ducks, like the teals, fly an erratic pattern and seem to be all over the place at once. The big Canadian geese fly in a manner similar to that of the gulls and cormorants, with that slow, rythmic grace that often fools hunters. Sometimes just the silhouette of the bird will tell the hunter what he is looking at.

This year brant, canvasbacks, and redheads are protected so gunners should be especially careful when they pull the trigger; it's not worth the stiff fines the wardens hand out. One helpful fact in the problem of identification is that ducks already on the water will take off differently; puddle ducks jump off the water and go straight up, whereas the diving ducks, such as broadbills, run along the surface in order to gain speed.

There are many ways to hunt ducks and geese, but the two most popular are from a grass covered (thatched) boat or from a blind, permanent or portable. Gunning out of a thatched duckboat is one of the most effective and exciting ways to shoot. With the boat you have complete mobility to hunt, regardless of wind, and the low duckboats hide well, thereby providing perfect concealment.

Besides the thatched duckboats, gunners often use the "scooter" with no grass covering. In this method of gunning the boat is painted drab grey, green or white (to resemble an ice flow). The decoys are spread around the boat and the hunter lies low, with just his head sticking up, to spot incoming birds. Scooter shooting is very successful on broadbill, and is used on large open areas of water or where the ducks shy away from land.

If you don't have a duckboat but still want to hunt, build yourself a blind. At times, shooting from a blind can be

highly successful, and the blind can be built to provide real comfort. In constructing a blind make certain it blends with the surrounding area and try to keep it as small as possible: a huge, towering mass of wood and reeds is an open warning to any duck that flies.

Keep in mind the prevailing winds, accessibility by land or boat, depth of water in front of the blind (in case you intend to wade out to set up the decoys and pick up dead birds), and also the amount of tidal flow in front of the blind. In very cold weather, slow tidal movement means ice.

One other method of shooting ducks is by jump-shooting. The hunter positions himself where he knows the ducks land to feed, and he waits for the birds to come in. When the birds land and start feeding he stalks to within range, stands up to flush them and shoots as they take off. The best time for jump-shooting ducks is on the low tide when the birds feed into the weeds and can be approached closely. A hunter jump-shooting will often flush out crippled birds that would only die a lingering death. At times, if a hunter is really determined or lucky, he can crawl up on geese: I shot one Canadian this way, directly across from the Jones Beach fishing piers. Jump-shooting is hard work, but it is one of the most sporting ways to take ducks.

When we come to the question of shotguns for duck shooting the field is wide open. Some die-hards still swear by the old 10 gauge while others tell you a 20 gauge will knock down anything that flies. The answer lies somewhere in the middle. Most gunners use a twelve, and I personally find it perfect on ducks and geese. At times when I feel really adventurous I use a .410 with a full choke, but I wouldn't recommend this light gun for all-around shooting.

Many gunners shooting over decoys choose a gun with a modified barrel, while those that pass-shoot turn to the full choke guns to increase the effective range of the shot.

If you intend to shoot primarily from a boat or blind the weight isn't that important. The man walking long distances will find the lighter guns a blessing.

Just for fun, let's pretend you're out hunting. You have done everything correctly so far: the boat is camouflaged well; the decoys are set properly; you're in a good location to hunt; the birds are abundant. You patiently wait and watch the skies and, at last, you spot a pair of black ducks winging across the bay; it looks like they're headed straight for your rig.

Canadian Geese, the king of waterfowl, taken in late season.

Suddenly, your potential dinner pulls for altitude and flares off. Your friend says, "But they were 500 feet away." Presto, you have just learned one important fact about ducks—their eyes are super-sharp and can detect the slightest movement at great distances. The ducks that flare away from sudden movement also shy away from bright colors, reflections off glasses and gun barrels, and even the empty shells that lie around the blind. When you find the birds are wary of your set, look around for something out of place. If you are not concealed and see birds approaching, FREEZE, even if you happen to be standing up. I have killed ducks while standing in the decoys simply because I didn't make any sudden motions.

One thing that will turn decoying ducks away is too much calling. Calls are an effective way of bringing in the birds, but remember to go lightly when the birds get close. I always bring along a goose call and have found it deadly when used properly. I have even called in flocks that passed by and had to fly back against the wind.

When duck shooting, always dress for maximum warmth; a cold day in the marsh is a miserable way to hunt. Hip boots are a must and, at times, waders are really handy. The down hunting coats are really great and are simply unbeatable for warmth and comfort.

To hunt waterfowl you need a New York State Small Game License AND a Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp (duck stamp), which costs $5. This stamp must be signed in ink by the owner of the license. The $5. might sound like a big rip-off, but the money is used wisely and goes to the management of migratory waterfowl refuges. The Brigantine Refuge in New Jersey was purchased with money from duck stamps, as were other key waterfowl sanctuary areas on the Atlantic coast. Waterfowl refuges have been established in 46 of the 50 states, primarily in the breeding and feeding grounds of the birds.

November 19th is opening day for both ducks and geese on Long Island. Check the federal hunting regulations for exact information as to dates, shooting hours, bag limits, etcetera, and obtain a copy of a good field guide for waterfowl identification. Know your game before you shoot.

Early season gunners will take many of the young birds, but in a matter of weeks the ducks get smart and become a real challenge. When the cold weather sets in and those biting winds whip across the marsh the real gunners are ready, for it is brutal weather that means good gunning. Maybe I'll see you on the marsh. Good gunning.

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Think Before You Shoot!

BY FRED GUARDINEER

A LARGE SNOW OWL SITTING STILL IS JUST TOO MUCH TEMPTATION FOR SOME PERSONS WHO CAN'T RESIST A SHOT.

We were discussing the coyotes shot by the deer hunters last Fall when one of the hunters raised a question which brought thought-provoked silence to the campfire coffee klatch.

"Why do some hunters have a compelling urge to kill any large or unknown animal that happens to come within the range of their gun?"

In the back of his mind when he asked this question was a report that he had seen a badger killed in New York State by a hunter. What had been accomplished by the killing of this extremely rare animal in this state?

Often the person knows that the animal is rare and just wants to prove his story. A few years ago a verbal report of a rarity would not be accepted untill it was backed up with a specimen. Recognizing that many other people would get a great deal of satisfaction from seeing the same rarity in life, standards have been modified so that observations of more than one reliable observer will be accepted. With more people carrying better cameras, often good proof can be obtained on film without killing the animal.

Many animals are killed just to get a better look at them, often by people who couldn't tell what they were even in hand: our bald eagles have suffered a great deal from this type of shooting. This is particularly true of brown immatures before they get the white head and tail.

Over the years, one of the birds to suffer the most abuse from the "there-it-is, shoot-it" policy is the snowy owl, which occasionally shows up in New York when hard times force it south for food. Until just recently it probably would have been safe to say that few, if any, ever returned to their native northland. A large owl sitting patiently on top of a fencepost is just too much temptation for some "sportsmen."

In the case of these owl killers, they probably went away with a feeling that they had done wildlife a real service by removing a dangerous predator, when in fact they had done a real disservice to the farmer, for the owl is one of the best mouse destroyers in existence.

Since protection was given to all hawks and owls not doing damage to poultry or livestock, extreme pressure has been taken off those birds. In spite of the fact that they are all protected, some people still can't resist the temptation to shoot them.

What is the difference between shooting the coyote, badger, owl or eagle, and shooting a deer or rabbit?

One difference is that the removal of one of the rare animals makes a much larger hole in the species population than does removal of a great many abundent game animals. In some cases it may mean removal of the total local population.

In the case of deer, habitat has increased while natural predators have been removed, and if man does not harvest the surplus, not only does starvation result from an overabundance of deer, but serious damage to the range and forest resource also occurs.

The law of supply and demand has its place in wildlife philosophy too. The less common an animal is in the wild, the greater its value as a living animal. It is disheartening to know of all the animals, that because of man's activities, are on the lists of endangered species.

So, hunters, be sportsmen when you hunt; let's not contribute any more wildlife to the rolls of extinction because of the indiscrimate activities of the few that cannot be anything but vandals.

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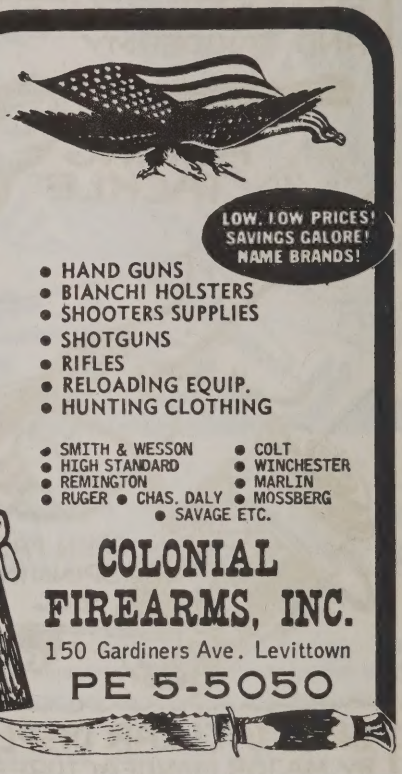

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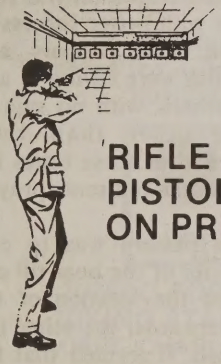

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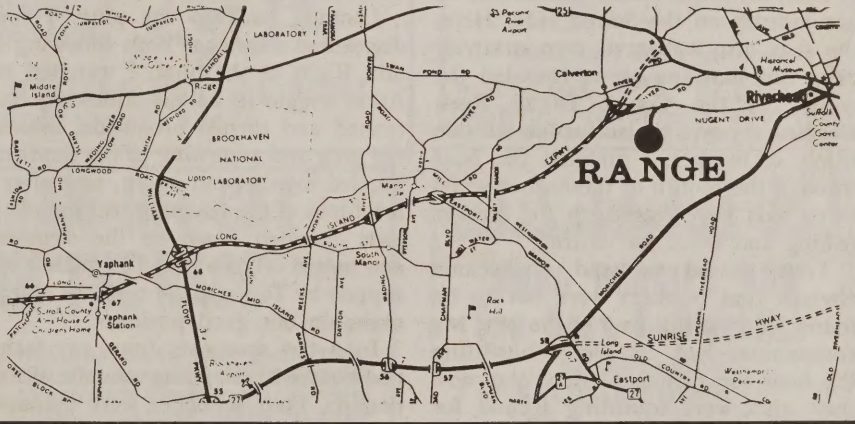

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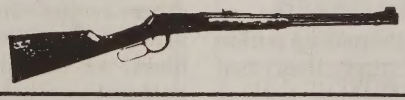

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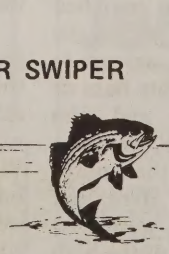

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Searching the Shallows

by George Cardel

Bluefish reports had directed our fishing attention to the Bayville area, and the morning sun glowed a pale orange through the autumn fog over Oyster Bay Harbor as we drove along its west shore. Apparently attracted by schools of menhaden, some real linebusters were scavenging meals in this serene location.

The placid, lake-like waters revealed only the ripples of the outgoing water during this first morning tidal stage of the full moon. Suddenly, around the next bend, the bubbling and boiling of bunkers disturbed the solitude of these inland waters. Optimism rose now, since many times a bunker dunker's main job in fishing may be reduced to the locating of these schools, as the blues do not take long in smelling them out when present.

Tom, my father and I started out on our journey on the Sound side. Here, the seas also appeared comparatively calm this morning as we rounded the corner of the Centre Island Reef. Keeping my eyes peeled for the tell-tale ripple of bunker, I directed the boat through the mouth of the harbor while three rods were rigged up for bunker fishing and three for casting.

Time passed on and it became obvious that bunkers were not to be found today in this part of the bay. My companions had completed outfitting the boat for fishing activity and now they, also, were squinting around for the schools of bunker. Remembering the school we spotted from the car, we ventured to that west shore deep within the harbor, hoping that they had remained in the area. Nothing, nothing to be seen at all along the marshed shallows. Well, being so well within the hill-surrounded harbor, we agreed to attempt some blind casting for bass or blues along the shorelines and who knew, perhaps we could pick up a few.

We pulled up along the north shoreline of West Harbor. Here, our offerings of plugs and jigs were cast while the boat crept along with the high outgoing tide. My father worked a popper and Tom was throwing out a Hopkins while I swam a Junior Atom. Thus, a good variety of lures worked the waters at varying levels beneath the surface.

Cast after was retrieved with not even a follow or swirl to be seen. Twenty minutes of casting brought the drifting boat towards Brickyard Point. By this time, blind casting did not seem so appetizing.

"Maybe we had ought to go back to bunker hunting", I said dejectedly. But a second later, "Let's try the other side of the point before we leave."

The boat glided up past the point as we again rhythmically started the routine of casting. My father carefully placed his popper in a small pocket of water near the meadowland, as had been done over and over before. Two swift jerks of the plopping popper suddenly produced a fish boil. He continued the retrieve, and then the investigation time was over. A splashing striper engulfed the plug and dragged it beneath the surface.

Looking back to my plug, I soon discovered a series of boils following its tail. Right at the boat, I watched my Atom wiggle in as the following bass rushed and turned broadside, missing the plug and returning to the depths. I hurried my cast out again, and after a few turns of the spinning reel handle, a bass clamped down on the swimmer and bolted off on a run. The anchor was slipped by Tom quietly over the side to maintain our good position.

In a few moments time, my father had boated his slapping schoolie of four pounds. Four schoolies were managed here at this verdant corner, with many other swipes and follows providing action. After such a dismal start for blues, we considered ourselves fortunate to have such success blind casting for bass.

When the activity slowed down, we picked up anchor and travelled down to the various points and docks located along the marsh: occasional snappers would rise but no bass could be located. We were about to again chase after bunkers when my father suggested that we try in the locality of Plum Point. We silently floated between two large docking areas no more than seventy five feet from the salt marsh. Whipping my plug towards the shallows, I took in a few turns when once again a boil appeared. Immediately, the boat was anchored to maintain our position. The next few casts produced only hits, eruptions, and splashes, but no takers.

Then it came to me to try a slower retrieve. That was it! The plug's slow wobble, which I wasn't providing in my over-anxiousness, could just be felt in the tension of the monofilament, then this sensation would be changed by the solid belt of a striper.

After boating a few schoolies, I related my method to the others; they immediately met with better success in hooking fish on their poppers and swimmers. The fish were roving in and out of these shallows, with no sign of their presence other than their plug-walloping, and at these times the bass slashed the water and sent spray in every direction.

The repetitive pattern was to cast about the perimeter of the boat till one of us established the location of the school. Soon afterwards, the other two would be into fish. It seemed that the surface and floating lures were much more effective than any of the sinking plugs. In these four to eight foot depths, I imagined it may be possible to fish too far below the fish even though they weren't showing on top.

The action lasted from 10:30 A.M. till noon, at which time the first signs of bottom could be detected due to the falling tide. Twenty schoolie bass for the freezer were kept while many others had been thrown back. It's too bad that I had forgotten my tagging equipment that day.

Fishing the shallows along verdant marshlands, jagged rocks, and pebbled beaches must be the most effective and productive means of catching striped bass on artificial lures when blind casting. I have a theory as to why this is so.

First of all, when you find fish or schools of fish in these minimal depths, they are probably prowling about for food. Since you are finding them in this hungry state, your artificial offering will seem all the more appetizing . Secondly, when casting and working your lure, one is more apt to pass the plug or jig in closer proximity to the fish. Finally, the inshore waters harbor great amounts of baitfish to maintain the fish's interest.

(Continued on page 37.)

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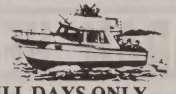
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FISHING REPORTS
For up-to-the-minute fishing information, read Frank Keating's fishing column in the L.I. Press seven days a week.

South Shore Report

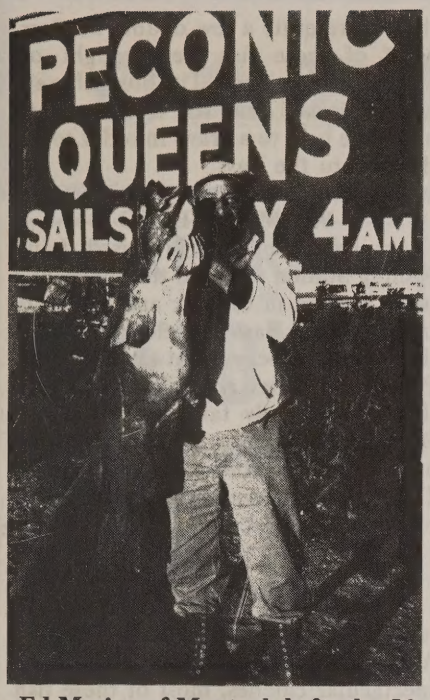
MONTAUK

Capt. Howie of the Peconic Queen II said the codfishing at Cox's Ledge is still the greatest. They will continue to fish there until the colder weather and rough seas make it necessary to fish Block Island. Capt. Jim Behan's successful codfishing trips to Block Island with the Peconic Queen indicates codfish are plentiful and quite large in this area.

Paul Keeler at the Anchor Marina says the big striper migration has not really started yet. Big albacore are taking red eels between the Point and Great Eastern Rock. Paul said it appears that there are two schools of bluefish, one of which consists of blues in the teens and larger, and the other of smaller blues. These blues are hitting deep trolled lures, with 300 to 350 ft. of wire line taking them. You can also get these blues in the early A.M. or evening on top. Offshore of "The Jones," the stripers are hitting large wooden plugs which are being cast at them. Because of the bluefish population it is necessary to use at least a six inch wire leader.

Johnny Kronuch at Johnny's Tackle Shop said the surf action has been good since last Thursday. Fishing the night tides is the most productive. Big striped bass ranging to the high thirties are taking plugs mostly at the North Bar to the Montauk Point Lighthouse. Blues are mixed in with these bass so rig your

Members of the Ramblers Club from Ellsburg, Pa., and some of the cod they took aboard the Peconic Queen fishing a new wreck.



Ed Marino of Montauk hefts the 56 lb. cod he took aboard the Peconic Queen II on Oct. 5.

plugs accordingly.

John Dojahn of the Hungerlieder Fishing Club, Ridgewood, N.Y., said the club fished with Capt. Dick Vigilant aboard the Triton II at Pollack Rip and that they scored with twenty six bluefish and sixteen striped bass to 21 lbs. Joe Rienecker, Al Miller, Frank Redman, Ronnie Groia and Charles Christopher all took part in this catch in a period of about three hours.

The Montauk Deep Sea Club held the Tournament of the Full Moon for striped bass from October 12 to October 14 and it was a huge success. Mickey Chiarenza of the E-Sea Tackle Co. and Louis Rosado of Herman's World of Sports took over 600 lbs. of bass on Mickey's new 5 oz. grey Tri-Fin lure. They fished Friday and Saturday nights with Dr. Jack Giannola on his new 22 ft. Mako, The Glory. Many of the fish were in the 12-15 lb. range and

HEL-CAT AVERTS TRAGEDY AT SEA

On Oct. 8, 1973, Columbus Day, Capt. Brad Glas had the Hel-Cat at the Race for blues, when suddenly it was noticed that a 17' outboard skiff had flipped and was lying upside down in the water. An ebbing tide was really moving and the water was rough. Evidently, the man running the 17 footer was not experienced enough for these waters in this size boat. Two persons, a man and a woman, were in the water, clinging to the overturned boat. The Hel-Cat quickly came alongside and the couple yelled that their two sons were trapped under the boat.

Four aboard the Hel-Cat dove in to attempt the rescue. They were Gerald L. Perruzza of Wyandanch, an ex-Navy diver; Ptl. Mike Douglas of Huntington, of the 88 Pct., Bklyn; Walt Campagna of E. Norwich, a gym teacher; Tom Farmer, a mate from the Hel-Cat.

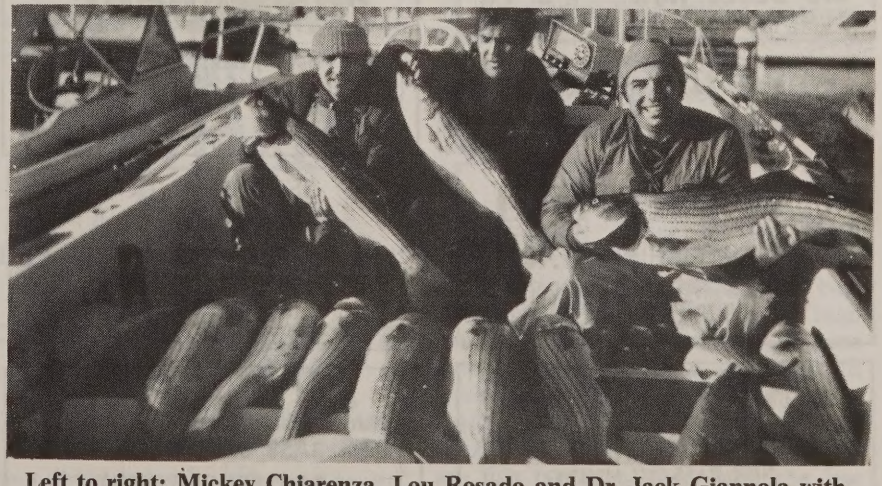
With Capt. Brad Glas directing the rescue efforts, Mr. Perruzza and Ptl. Douglas dove under the overturned boat and got the two young boys out, despite the life jacket the boys were wearing and their state of extreme panic which had them holding onto the inside of the boat with iron grips. Fortunately, an air pocket had formed, allowing them air to breathe.

Within a half hour, all were out of the water and on the Hel-Cat, where passengers rubbed the young boys down with towels. The passengers were great too, advised Mrs. Glas, and assisted as much as they could in the rescue.

The Coast Guard, who Brad had called, finally arrived and the boat was towed to Fischers Island. The Coast Guard took Perruzza, Ptl. Douglas and the family of four (and their dog) to Lawrence Memorial Hospital, New London, Conn. All were treated for exposure and finally released. Late in the evening, a Coast Guard Cutter brought the four rescuers back to the Hel-Cat to pick up their gear.

WHO SAYS PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO GET "INVOLVED" ANYMORE.

We at L.I.F. commend these four rescuers for their heroic action.



Left to right: Mickey Chiarenza, Lou Rosado and Dr. Jack Giannola with part of their catch of 600 lbs. of Striped Bass they took during Montauk's Tournament of the Full Moon.

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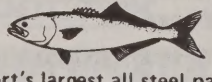

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Capt. Andy Pollio [516] GE 7-3381

there were quite a few double headers. Most of these fish were caught off Montauk Point itself. The bluefish were hitting so well that the trolling speed had to be held to a crawl in order to get through to the bass.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the Promised Land Fishing Station reported that blues of 2 to 10 lbs. are in the bay and them are taking plugs. Bass are close by along the shore at Rocky Point and offshore. Plenty of porgies are still around and they are hungrily taking worm baits. Blackfishing picked up at the east side of Gardiner's Island among the rocks. The flounders are just starting, with the big rush still to come.

SAG HARBOR

Helen Jacobsen of the Noyac Marina reports the flounders have started. Although anglers have not had any spectacular catches, most of these fish are of filleting size. A few weakfish are still being caught occasionally. Helen advises that although the snack bar is closed, the marina will remain open until the last die-hard pulls his boat out.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr. 'is now fishing the open boat Capt. Clark I in Shinnecock Bay for flounders on the tide. When the tide turns he then heads for Peconic Bay and fishes for blacks and porgies on the wrecks. Capt. Clark Bellows, Sr. is now running the Capt. Clark II out of the Whaleneck Marina in Sag Harbor and he is going for flounders.

HAMPTON BAYS

Bradley's Fishing Station reports plenty of flounders have been around for the past two weeks. The best spot is around Buoy #29, the same as in the spring. Most of the fish are in the ¼ to 1¼ lb. range. There are not too many big ones, but there are plenty of keepers. The big ones are still on their way in.

MORICHES BAY

The open boat Alma is loading up on porgies, blackfish, sea bass, kingfish and blowfish. One fluke was caught on the inside of the inlet. Capt. Schlueter said they were slaughtering the blues on the outside. Flounder action seems to be occurring at the mouth of Forge River or in the creeks. On Saturday all the buckets were full of fish. On Sunday the wind was bad and about half that

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Flounder, fluke, kingfish, blowfish, snappers — all part of the mixed bags being taken in the Moriches area. Anglers left to right, are: David Ismael Ruiz, and Richie and Jan Bryant. Photo courtesy of Tadsen's Fishing Station.

amount was caught.

Frank Savino of Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station reports the flounders started to show up in ernest last week. An occasional weakfish or kingfish is picked up along with the flounders. Frank said the crabs should be in in about two weeks as they are starting to move down from Forge River area to settle in the channels for the winter.

MASTIC BEACH

Ronnie Keenan of Keenan's Fishing Station reports there are plenty of crabs available. They are all over as they start to move into their winter quarters. Flounders are just holding their own, with some anglers doing well. The flurry of flounders of last week has quieted down, awaiting the advent of colder water.

CAPTREE

Capt. Carl Bauer of the Capt. Whittaker reports the blackfish are biting very well at the wrecks in the bay. Anywhere from 10 to 30 fish per man can be had. These blackfish weigh from 1 to 7 lbs. The fishing was good all week but on Sunday the high winds made anchoring at the wrecks difficult so that the catches were down to five to ten fish per man. Even with the low catch on Sunday, the largest black of

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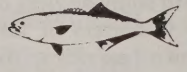
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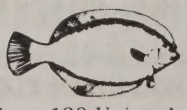
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the week was caught. This fish weighed in at 8¾ lbs.

Capt. George Tweedy of the Capt. Scotty reports he has stopped night bluefishing and is doing well during the day. At least 5-6 fish per man is the minimum and these fish are in the 6 to 10 lb. class.

Rich Reina, publisher of the L.I.F., was out in the Fire Island Inlet on Friday and he reports the area was loaded with bunker. The bluefish were chasing the bait from the inlet to the Robert Moses Bridge. Rich and his brother, Michael, came in with plenty of blues in the 10 to 15 lb. range. Rich tried to head out of the inlet to fish Cedar Beach for bass, however, the seas were too much for his sixteen foot boat.

Al Kappauf of the Captree Bait Station says the pier fishing consists of blackfish mostly and they are of a decent size. The flounders are just starting. Most of the beaches are producing big bass on bait. Live bunker and eels, as well as squid or clam will take plenty of bass. The bunker have been chased up on the beach by the bass. A 55 lb. bass was weighed in over the weekend and this lunker was caught toward the west of Cedar Beach. Jones Beach pier is producing blackfish and flounders.

LINDENHURST

John Schaefer of Charlie's Bait & Tackle reports striped bass jumping all over from the Sore Thumb to the Fire Island Lighthouse. The bass are taking live eels, bunker or clam chum. Name your bait and take a fish. Surfcasters are picking up some fish on Rebels, Stan Gibbs or Atoms. The blues are mixed in with the bass. Flounders have started, however, they are still small. The Kismet Reef holds plenty of blackfish.

BABYLON

The Babylon Sports Center had nothing to report on the fresh water fishing. It seems that everyone is concentrating on the bass and blues in the inlet area. Snagging live bunker and swimming them is getting teen sized blues and bass to the low thirties. Bill said when using live bait don't set the hook on the first strike as you have a large piece of bait which the fish must swallow. Give the fish a chance to take the bait and then hit.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait & Tackle reports real good striped bass fishing. Cedar Beach seems to be productive for those

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using live eels. Chumming in the bay with clam bellies around the Measured Mile or Zach's Bay is very good also. Most of the bay bass are schoolies of from 3 to 10 lbs. Flounder fishing is good, however, these fish are small. Squaw Island and Middle Bay are best. Some porgies and kingfish are at the Copiague hole. Crabbing with traps in the channels is good. Blackfish are at the bridges and crabs are excellent in the bait department. Don't forget the wrecks in the channel at Tobay.

SEAFORD

Kenny at Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station says that they have been picking up plenty of small flounders. The bridges are holding blackfish. Some small sea bass are also being caught. Crabs in the bay are caught in the deep water using traps.

Pop's Fishing Station reports that they have had some catches of weakfish along with the flounders. Crabs have been good in the Massapequa area on the flats. Some good catches of blackfish have been made.

Dell's Fishing Station called to report the abundance of blue claw crabs. Flounder fishing is taking place in Merrick Bay and there are big kingfish off Massapequa.

WANTAGH

Frank Hecker of Causeway Bait & Tackle says there are a lot of striped bass being caught on both bait and plugs. A 49 lb. bass was caught by drifting bunker in Jones Inlet by Allan Ottenstein. Bruce Spong, casting a Creek Chub, caught a 32 pounder at Cedar Beach. Blackfishing is excellent at all the bridges. Flounder fishing will pick up with the approach of colder weather. Some big snappers are being caught at dawn and dusk at Island Creek.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports very good flounder fishing, although these fish are small. There is plenty of action. You can keep about one out of five. "Rowboat Alley" at the beginning of Ned's Creek is the hot spot. There is very good bass action along the beach on live bunker. Loads of twenty pounders along with some thirty and forty pounders were taken at the West Bar by Point Lookout. A forty pounder came off of Short Beach. Live bunker is good for the over twenty pound bass and trolled spoons and plugs are good for the teen sized fish.

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N.Y. Bight Report

Another lunker bass taken at the Meadowbrook Bridge. Angler Andy Andretta took this 52 pounder on 15 lb. test Ande line.

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger of the party boat Star Stream reports fishing the area of Cholera Banks this entire past week. Richie said fishing has been generally good with blues ranging from 4 to 16 lbs. Richie said the smaller fish are being caught 30 feet down, while the larger blues can be taken four to six feet off the bottom. One outstanding catch taken aboard the Star Stream was managed by Mr. Joe Martin of Ossining, N.Y. He landed 34 big blues on Sunday.

Capt. Al Lindroth of the party boat Capt. Al said his fares are enjoying the finest kind of blue action. Al said the best action is at Cholera Banks with fish going up to 19 lbs. Capt. Al said that due to adverse weather conditions plus a strong moon tide over the weekend, fishermen were forced to fish with heavy sinkers just a few feet off the bottom. However, no one seemed to mind as this is where most of the big blues are. On Friday night the Capt. Al landed their largest blue of the season. The blue weighed in at 19 lbs. even.

Capt. Paul Schmidt of the party boat Aloma said that on Saturday, due to early haze, he was unable to get on some of his offshore wrecks. He then decided to fish the bay in the area of the Meadowbrook Bridge. This fishing yielded a goodly number of small porgies, sea bass and blackfish. Paul said that at about 11 A.M. the haze cleared and he headed the Aloma for some of his favorite offshore wrecks. The upshot of this was that his fares loaded up with these same species but of a larger variety.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Art White of the party boat Angler II said he found the bluefishing fair to good this past weekend. Capt. White said while fishing the area of Cholera Banks his fares were forced to use 8 and 10 oz. sinkers due to heavy seas and a strong moon tide. In spite of the poor conditions everyone on board caught fish. These fish ranged from 6 to 16 lbs.

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Marilyn Wardle of Ed's Fishing Station reports flounders of medium size are in good supply in Swift Creek and the Short Beach Coast Guard Station. Marilyn referred to the local blackfishing at the jetty and around local bridges as excellent. This past week Fundy Bay produced good catches of big kingfish. Marilyn said surfers are catching big bass on popping plugs in the area of the Malibu Club, while

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bunker dunkers are catching their share from boats, mostly off Lido Beach.

ISLAND PARK

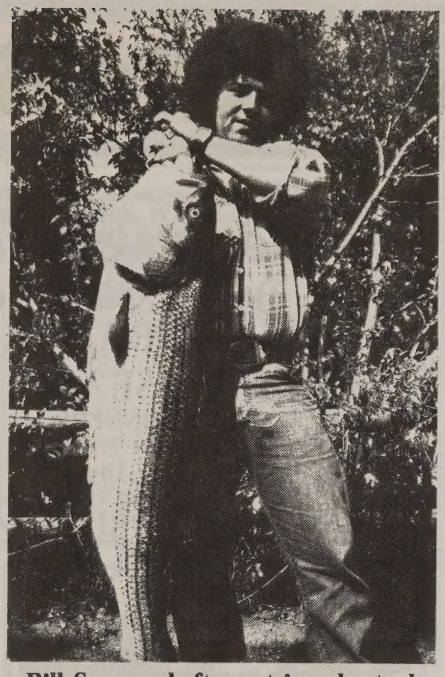
John Esposito of the Commodore Fishing Station reports flounders of medium size are quite abundant off the Long Beach High School and also the area of Buoy #14. John also knew of some kingfish that were caught this week but said there were no particular hot spots. Porgies are also still available in the bay but continue small in size.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon Miller of Henning's Fishing Station said medium size flounders are plentiful in local hot spots like Bannister Creek, Woodmere Channel and at Buoy #5. Blackfish are plentiful at local wrecks and on rocky bottoms. Stripers of school size are plentiful around the Atlantic Beach Bridge, while bass up to 40 lbs. are being taken from boats along the beach on fresh bunker and also on bunker spoons. Trollers using umbrella rigs with tubes are doing a nice job on bluefish. Leon reports that on Saturday Fred Hill of the Four Queens broke off two giant tuna at the Mud Hole. Leon also knew of at least seven giant tuna brought to gaff in this same area last week.

JAMAICA BAY

Bob Muir of the Canarsie Pier Fishing Station reports flounders, small porgies and butterfish are being caught from the pier. For boat fishermen, Buoy #24 is producing good porgy action, while Buoy #16 is the hot spot for flounder. Good eel fishing prevails at Dans Bar, and snappers can still be caught almost anywhere. Bob said



Bill Saracco hefts a striper he took recently from the Jones Beach Surf on a live eel. Gutted, the bass weighed 41 lbs. 6 oz.

crabs are still available at the pier for scoopers.

John Brando of the Cross Bay Rod & Gun Shop reports snappers and crabs are plentiful off the North and South Channel Bridges. Sand porgies and spots are also in good supply off the South Channel Bridge. Fluke fishing has slowed up while the action on blackfish in the area of Marine Bridge has picked up. School bass are being caught on sandworms from the North and South Channel Bridges, while larger bass are being taken from the Rockaway surf on popping plugs.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Jim Ardolino of the Amberjack IV said that on Saturday, October 6, the Amberjack IV, which was jointly skippered by Capts. Jay Porter and Fred Ardolino, returned from an offshore cod and pollack wreck trip loaded down with big cod and pollack. Jim said the largest cod weighed in at 60 lbs., while honors for largest pollack went to a 35 pounder. Capt. Jim said this past weekend's offshore trip was cancelled due to poor weather, and is rescheduled for Friday, October 19, departing at 11:00 P.M.

Capt. Victor Becker of the party boat Tampa IV reports loading up this entire past week on jumbo blues. Victor said he is finding good action in the area of Seabright. A substantial number of good sized albacore are also being caught. Victor was most pleased to report a good tilefish trip on October 12-13. The total catch was in the area of 300 big tiles. The Tampa IV has three tilefish trips remaining on this year's calendar, departing at 10:00 P.M. on October 19, 26 and November 2.

George Gnad of the Bay End Dock Rowboat Station said porgy action is red hot at Buoy #6. Small spots can also be taken in this same area. Blackfish are plentiful at the jetty and also at the Marine Bridge. Flounders are being caught at the Plum Beach flats. This same area is also producing good crabbing.

Sal at the Stella Maris Fishing Station said boats are trolling medium size blues off Norton's Point, while chummers in search of larger fish are finding success offshore Seabright and also at 17 Fathoms. Medium size porgies can be taken at Tin Cans, into the bay up to the area of the Round House. Blacks remain plentiful on local wrecks and other hard bottom areas.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports blues and albacore are being taken by party boats at Seabright, N.J. and also at Ambrose Ridge. Umbrella rigs with tubes are producing medium sized bass for trollers at Sandy Hook. Surfmen are taking their share on Cordell plugs. Mike said stripers in the 25 to 50 lb. class are being caught on fresh bunkers being drifted between the jetty and the Shoal Buoy. Mike said the bay is loaded

Mike Lepper, 12, who is the son of renowned bass fisherman Ronnie Lepper, poses with his first striped bass — a real lunker!

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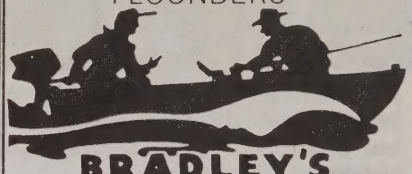

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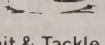

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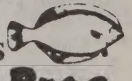

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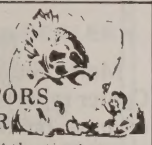

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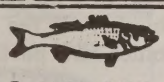

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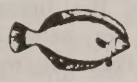
BAIT  **BOATS**
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STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reports red hot bluefish action at the Berger Avenue storm sewer, with surfers landing blues up to 16 lbs. on bunkers and butterfish. Great Kills Harbor continues to yield excellent fishing for snappers, butterfish and spots. Surfers working New Dorp and Oakwood Beach are connecting with stripers on popping plugs in the morning, while swimmers work best in the P.M. Trollers have been catching goodly amounts of stripers in Princess Bay and at Hoffman and Swinbern Islands. Tubes have been working best.

SANDY HOOK

Joe Julian of the Julian Bait Co. reports blues are being trolled on bunker spoons from Monmouth Beach to Sandy Hook. Bunker dunkers working this stretch are being rewarded with stripers in the 10 to 30 lb. class. Surfers are also finding good bass action in this same area, mostly on popping plugs. Joe reports flounders, spots, butterfish and crabs are in good supply in the Shrewsbury River.

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North Shore Report

GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop reports the Brand X is loading up on bluefish at Plum Gut. Other boats are catching them in the Race at the east side of Gardiner's Island and Pigeon Rip. Blackfishing is coming along very well now. A few flounders are just starting at Plum Island Harbor and Orient Point. The Greenport Jetty has good blackfishing. The Wilhelric is concentrating on blackfish now, with some porgies being caught. Striped bass fishing along the beach, using small yellow bucktails, is bringing in teen sized fish. Capt. Bill Luke had a terrific blackfishing day with the Center Fishing Club of Hicksville.

SOUTHOLD

The Southold Fishing Station reports anglers are still doing great on the porgies. The blackfishing is picking up at a good pace. The Brickyard and Jessups Neck are the most favored spots. Use fiddler or green crabs. Flounders are just starting to pick up.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports the weakfish and porgies are still holding up strong. Rose Grove by the tower is the spot and worms and squid are the baits. Blackfishing at the big rock in the North Race at Robins Island or off Nasau Point seems to be best.

MOUNT SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reported that there were plenty of bluefish all along the beach and they are working in close. Trolling or bait fishing will produce well. Blacks are being picked up in the rocks at Miller Place and Rocky Point. The rocks near shore on the Mount Misery Shoal has a nice concentration of blacks.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fischer of the Betty W had the Dry Harbor Anglers of Queens Village, N.Y. for a Saturday charter and they had loads of blackfish and porgies. The pool fish was a 6 lb. blackfish. On Sunday, members of the Daily News were on board, and with all the rough water they wound up with thirty blacks up to 7 lbs.

Plaza Sports reports striped bass are being taken off some of the beaches by casters. A 43 lb. striped bass was caught by Ron Adams. Blackfishing at Old Field Point and Cranes Neck is doing well. Bluefish are still in the harbor chasing bunker. Flounders are just starting to show.

SMITHTOWN

Beacon on the Sound says the blackfish are in good supply while the flounders are spotty. Blacks are at CRane's Neck. Some small flounders are in the river. Some blues are in the bay. A 29 lb. striper was caught off the dock on a worm on Saturday. The mouth of the river is producing striped bass for the worm fishermen. Bass are being caught on plugs along the beaches but nobody is talking.

NORTHPORT

Mort Smith at Larkfield Sports Center reports trollers are taking plenty of bass on Sekora tubes off Eaton's Neck. Two 34 lb. bass were caught on Friday in the A.M. Bait fishing with cut bunker off the beaches is getting both blues and bass.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don Constantin of the Ever Ready Fleet had a good weekend. Sand City holds plenty of porgies and the blackfish are hitting the worm baits. Dave Rosen had a 3¾ lb. fluke on Sunday, and Don reported that they have been picking up quite a few every time out. The flounders are providing slow fishing and they are still small. Target Rock area was another productive area for blacks and porgies. The fluke were being caught outside of Huntington Bay.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Milt Powles at Veterans Fishing Station says the bluefish are hitting well in the harbor. Blackfishing is on a good upswing while at the same time the porgies are still hitting well. Flounders are just coming in, however, they are still small. Bass are being taken by the worm trollers at Whitewood Point.

GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports Shop reports the bluefish were right at the foot of McLaughlin Street chasing bunker. Snagged bunker, either whole or cut up, were getting blues up to 16 lbs. John said he verified one report of twenty seven fish but could not chase down the report of fifty fish being taken. Trollers with big tubes and spoons were picking up blues off Prybil Beach. Bass off Matinnecock Point, Prybil Sluiceway

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and Peacock Point are being caught on popping plugs. These fish are caught casting off the beach but you must work for them.

Glen Cove Sports Shop called to ask that we announce that a Public Hearing will be held at Glen Cove City Hall on October 23,1973 at 8 P.M. regarding the bunker boats off the Glen Cove shores. Will all who can, attend please.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle reports a lot of blackfish around Hart's Island are being taken on fiddler crabs. The porgies are still around. Bluefish, located a little past Execution Rock, are being caught on cut bunker bait. On occasions the blues come to the top and then Rebel plugs come into play. There is very spotty flounder action. Striped bass are being trolled on worms at Hart's Island, with the early evening and morning being good for popping plugs. The party boats are loading up on blackfish and some porgies in between.

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CONNECTICUT SCENE

DICK ALLEY

WESTCHESTER

Porgies and blackfish on the bottom lead the Westchester fishing picture, with just enough bluefish and bass tossed in to make things interesting.

At Cameron's in New Rochelle the bluefish are showing on top around Huckleberry Island to bring the first real surface action of the year. Glen Island is still the spot for bunker fishing and trolling. Blackfish are getting bigger and more plentiful every day, porgies are all we want, and flounder are also improving daily.

In Mamaroneck, Fred Archer told of lots of small bait around, with sporadic bluefish action going to the bait droppers. Once in a while they pop up. Bass are slow, but porgies and blacks are fabulous.

Dan Catalano of Milton Point Tackle reports a good fishing scene here. Blues are mostly hitting bait, but popping up on occasion. Bass are hitting plugs at night, and porgies and blacks continue to please the bottom bouncers.

GREENWICH

We found Doug Van Wynen home visiting his dad and enjoying that Long Island Sound fishing for a change. Trolling is good around Greenwich, but the fish are right on the bottom, requiring 300 ft. of line or better and bouncing the lure right on the bottom. The Big Daddy, the large surgical tube, and umbrella rigs are all paying off. Top water action is a rarity, with only a few anglers reporting finding the fish on top. When they were on top they only stood there for a few minutes at most. Bottom fish are fabulous off Greenwich Point, and the flounder are beginning to hit in the cove.

STAMFORD

Excellent fishing from Pat's Marina, goes the report. Blackfish are terrific, along with an almost unbelievable run of porgies. Bluefish are hitting bait around Todd's Point, but bass are fairly slow, with all the regular Stamford anglers heading for their yearly jaunt to Montauk.

Jack Karwosky at Jack's Sporting Goods reports bluefish activity at Cove Beach and at Cummings Beach, but the ticket to catching them lies on the bottom with bunker chunks. Flounder are beginning here, with blacks and porgies around when they're not hitting.

DARIEN

We wish Bert a speedy recovery from his recent operation. Meantime, Jim Kingsbury reports good fishing for both blues and bass in the Rowayton. He told of Tee Tramer of Norwalk who was fishing around Fish Island and who caught a 19 lb. bluefish on a bunker tail. Other reports of blues up to 18 lbs. and bass in the 30 lb. class are frequent enough to perk up any frustrated anglers.

NORWALK

Tom Borges took a week off and went fishing with his brother, Casey Borges, and A.J. Parisi. They've been fishing the Norwalk Islands daily and the tally goes like this. Casey has top bass of 41 lbs., backed up by a pair weighing 32 and 33 lbs. Tom scored first with a 29 lb. cow, then came in the following day with a 38 pounder. A.J., too, had some fish in the thirties. Blues almost went beyond count. The action is all on bunkers cut into chunks.

Ed Mulcahy weighed in his 50 lb. bass at Mola Bros., and so joins the famed Schaefer 50 pound club. His fish was taken by the same method in the Norwalk Islands. Bruse reports continuing action around 11B and 24C, as well as great bottom fishing within and around the islands.

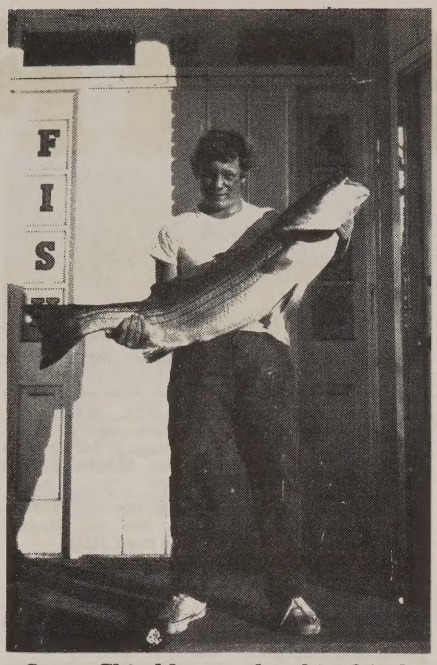
At Four Winds, Rita and Bob Utz have been scoring well on bluefish, too, in the area of Sheffield Island. The catch was bluefish, all between 10 and 13 lbs., and the bait was bunker. A few weakfish catches have been reported.

WESTPORT

Big fish inside the Saugatuck River, comes the word from Ed Boland. Steve Backer took his 14½ lb. bass on bunker near the Post Road Bridge. On the outside there've been some big fish, too. Stan Pierwola landed three fish, 44 lbs., 37½ lbs. and 38½ lbs. Getting back to the river, flounder are hitting around the Carraige Bridge in Saugatuck. Ed tells of weakfish in Black Rock Harbor near the Fayerweather Yacht Club. Weaks of 5 and 6 lbs. were taken by Lenny Orifice and Steve Czinski. Sunken Island has been producing big bass, too, for bunker fishermen. Top water action for bluefish is slow here as everywhere else, but that could change any day. They sure are thick on the bottom.

STRATFORD

Francis Spencer of Shelton scored again on a big striper. The fish weighed in at 43 lbs. at the Housatonic Marina. The catch was made in the area of the gun club. While some blues are being taken inside and outside the river



Steve Chimblo caught this 36 lb. Striper at Greenwich Point, Saturday Oct. 6, on a bunker chunk.

mouth, there's also plenty of blackfish action around the breakwaters. Porgies are holding in well, and flounder are off to a slow fall beginning.

MILFORD

We caught Don Millus visiting the Sportsman's Rendezvous and theorized as to why the fish were hanging on the bottom, then spoke with Vin Ciulla. Vin tells us the bass are in at all the shore spots, but bunker is the only ticket. Blues are on the bottom, but blackfish are hitting very well. Vin's first trip of the year to Quincy for flounder brought back a combined catch of 600 lbs.

NEW HAVEN

Walt Janeczek of Outdoor Sports reports on good fishing for school stripers off of Morningside, and some big bass coming out of the Thimble Islands off Branford. Dr. Frechette recorded his biggest bass so far, a 31 lb. beauty. Lighthouse breakwater is also producing some big stripers. Blacks are hitting at Charles Island, Townsends Ledge and 6 Mile Reef. Six Mile Reef is the last spot to find the blacks in the fall. Blues are in at West Haven and porgies are still around. Flounder are starting at Stony Creek, with bonus catches of butterfish being taken on shrimp baited on a small hook.

WATERFORD

Big blues and bass are filling the fishing picture here. One individual catch weighed in at Hillyer's Bait & Tackle showed 14 stripers between 15 and 38 lbs. Porgies and blacks are thick. Weakfish, too, have moved down from Rhode Island in force. The bait is in close, bringing those weakfish that didn't show in the spring in close for a fall run.

BRIDGEPORT

Bob Zam Pidri at Bob's Bait told of first top-water bluefish action in that area, with blues coming to the top morning and evening at St. Mary's and around Black Rock Harbor. Weaks, too, are fairly thick in the harbor area. Porgies and blacks are hitting well.

At Ted's Bait & Tackle, Seaside Park is the reported top porgy spot. John Zygmant weighed in a 34 lb. lunker bass, taken on bunker, we know not where. Blues are available on the bottom with bunker chunks and they are a good size, running 8 to 9 lbs. Penfield and Stratford breakwaters are producing blacks.

MERIDEN

Float n' Sinker Tackle Shop in Meriden reports good fishing for their customers. They've been fishing the Rhode Island breachways, and Bob himself caught 35 bass to 22 lbs. in a day on Smilin' Bills at Charleston, R.I. Flounder, too, are good in Rhode Island. Westbrook, too, is producing bass very well.

OLD SAYBROOK

Russ Fleet of the Connecticut River Striped Bass Club tells us the Saybrook-Westbrook area and also the Old Lyme side of the river are producing great bluefishing. Frank Barnaba took a 20 pounder. Hammonassett, too, has been producing blues around the breakwater on Meggs Point. Rimas Taruski continues to lead the entire area in bass and bluefishing, with fish consistently being trophies.

GREENWICH

Capt. John Minnitti, skipper of the Delmar, reports a steadily improving picture on the party boat scene. Blacks and porgies continue to lead, as well as some sea bass and fluke coming over the side daily.

NEW JERSEY

PETE BARRETT

SANDY HOOK

Julian's reported the tuna action is still going strong. Average catches at the B.N. Buoy are running 40 to 50 lbs. with occasional fish over 400 lbs. reported. Bluefish are concentrated at the Shrewsbury Rocks. A good bluefish here will go 16 lbs. but most are 10-14 lbs. Around the point of the Hook bottom fishermen are doing well on

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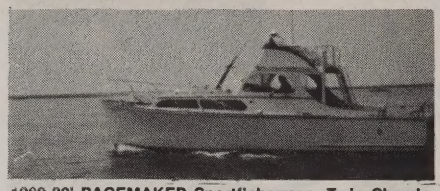

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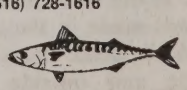

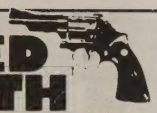

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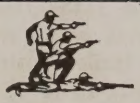

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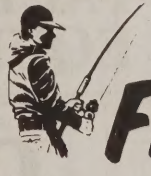
SEARCHING THE SHALLOWS

(Continued from page 18.)

fish's interest.

Please, don't misunderstand me: all too often I've had my artificials come back with invisible rejected signs after being tossed out both blindly and to finning fish in these shallows. However, using a light spinning rod with surface and near-surface lures and plugs in the shallows has to be the optimum method for bass excitement.

So, when you find yourself out on the Sound this fall, with a lack of blues and some squinting eyes, try some inshore blind casting. Your bass or possible bluefish appetite might be satisfied here, but I'm sure your eyes will be soothed by fishing in some of the most serene and soft settings by the marshes of inland waters on the North Shore.



The Long Island
FISHERMAN

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I wish to place the following Classified Ad under the category: (circle one)

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porgies, blackfish and lafayettes. Stripers are hitting worms along the surf in the Park while trollers using large tubes are taking fish up to 38½ lbs. Wormers at the tip of the Hook are scoring on bass up to 25 lbs. Flounders are beginning to show along the bulkheads.

SEABRIGHT

Armand at Giglio's reported good catches of blues, weaks and stripers along the jetties from the Wall to Monmouth Beach. The weaks are running about 3 to 5 lbs. and blues about the same although some large slammers have been taken. Stripers were weighed in by Gordan Johnson with three up to 13 lbs., Tom Gist had four up to 23 lbs., Tom Selitto fished a sandworm for his 26 lb. striper, and Tom Manhire use a Polaris popper to catch a 21 pounder. While talking to Armand, Rich Cross came in with a 17½ pounder from Monmouth Beach.

LONG BRANCH

Paul at Monmouth Tackle reported a mixed bag of weakfish, blues and stripers. Weakfish from 3 to 8 lbs. are hitting ½ oz. bucktails and the #3 and #75 Hopkins. Bluefish are mixed in and average 4 lbs. although some catches have touched 14 lbs. Stripers are a steady pick now and a few big ones have been seen. Most catches are shorts to 15 lbs. Paul is hoping the west winds continue which will bring some great fishing catches.

Matty Sowel at the Long Branch Pier reported good catches of weakfish and blues. Weaks are averaging 3 to 4 lbs. and occasional bluefish to 12 lbs. have been caught. There are still lots of snappers and lafayettes.

HUDSON RIVER

HOPEWELL JUNCTION

From Joe of Joe's Bait & Tackle comes a report of a most unbelievable catch. Bill Right trolled a red surgical tube near Cornwall and caught a 12½ lb. bluefish. He also caught several 3 to 5 pounders and reported that white bucktails were also effective once the schools were located. A few small stripers are being caught along Bannerman's Island and Dennington Point.

WAPPINGERS FALLS

B & M Bait Shop reported a slowdown of large and smallmouth bass fishing with few fish over 2 lbs. Excellent crappie fishing has taken up the slack.

VERPLANCK

Snapper blues are still hitting well, according to Ace & Charlie's Tackle Shop. The entire area near the Bear Mountain Bridge is producing best with small ¼ oz. spoons. White perch and lafayettes are plentiful and are caught easiest on bloodworms.

LOWER HUDSON

The Outdoorsman Ltd. reported good crabbing along the Interstate Park. Lafayettes, perch, eels and snapper blues are numerous, hitting best on the incoming tide. Sandworms and small strips of fish belly are the ideal baits. Stripers up to 10 lbs. have been reported from Bayonne, along Yonkers, the Park and up to Piermont but they don't seem to have schooled up yet. Worms and bucktails are the fish catchers. Bluefish of 2 to 4 lbs. are being caught from Robbins Reef and on up to Piermont in the main channel.

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TIDE TABLES

SOUTH SHORE Long Island

SANDY HOOK STATION

DAY	AM	PM
Thurs.	1:11	1:31
Fri.	2:19	2:39
Sat.	3:25	3:48
Sun.	4:32	4:52
Mon.	5:31	5:49
Tues.	6:23	6:42
Wed.	7:08	7:25
Thurs.	7:47	8:06

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0	50
Shinnecock Bay	+1	25
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05
MORICHES INLET	−0	56
Smith's Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potunk Point	+3	35
Mastic Beach	+3	28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0	38
(Inlet, Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0	38
Coast Guard Station	−0	19
Fire Island Light	+0	47
GREAT SOUTH BAY		
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3	39
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
Bay Shore	+2	23
Babylon	+2	12
Amityville	+2	21
JONES INLET	−0	19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
Freeport Creek	+0	34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0	00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0	38
JFK Airport	+0	26
STATEN ISLAND	+0	27
MANASQUAN	−0	12

PHASES OF THE MOON

10/26 10/4 10/12 10/18

NEW

1st Qtr.

FULL

Last Qtr.

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Block Island SOUND

EASTERN LONG ISLAND

NEW LONDON STATION

DAY	AM	PM
Thurs.	4:28	4:54
Fri.	6:03	6:32
Sat.	7:30	7:58
Sun.	8:33	9:05
Mon.	9:31	10:00
Tues.	10:20	10:48
Wed.	11:05	11:33
Thurs.	11:42	

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0	14
Fort Pond Bay	−0	29
Montauk Inlet	−0	25
Montauk Point	−1	13

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	11:00	**5:20**	11:30	**5:50**
Fri.		**6:10**	12:05	**6:40**
Sat.	12:20	**7:00**	12:55	**7:25**
Sun.	1:10	**7:45**	1:40	**8:10**
Mon.	1:55	**8:30**	2:25	**8:55**
Tues.	2:40	**9:15**	3:10	**9:35**
Wed.	3:25	**9:55**	3:50	**10:20**
Thurs.	4:10	**10:40**	4:35	**11:05**

WESTERN Long Island Sound

Long Island Sound WILLETS POINT STATION

DAY	AM	PM
Thurs.	4:39	5:02
Fri.	5:45	6:11
Sat.	6:53	7:18
Sun.	7:56	8:19
Mon.	8:51	9:17
Tues.	9:42	10:08
Wed.	10:28	10:57
Thurs.	11:13	11:40

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0	10
Execution Light	−0	06
Manhasset Bay	−0	01
Hempstead Harbor	−0	11
City Island	−0	03
Rye Beach	−0	28

Long Island SOUND

Long Island Sound BRIDGEPORT STATION

DAY	AM	PM
Thurs.	2:46	3:06
Fri.	3:57	4:17
Sat.	5:05	5:31
Sun.	6:07	6:34
Mon.	7:02	7:31
Tues.	7:53	8:21
Wed.	8:38	9:06
Thurs.	9:17	9:47

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	−0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	−0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0	08
Herod Point	−0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	−0	20
Truman Beach	−0	42

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